

AMENDMENTS TO THE CLAIMS:

The listing of claims will replace all prior versions, and listings of claims in the application:

LISTING OF THE CLAIMS

1. (Currently Amended) A Valve, in particular check valve, adapted for use with ~~for~~ hydraulic cylinders, in particular for hydraulic plungers in underground mining, with the valve comprising a valve housing and a switchable valve insert received therein, with connections for high pressure lines connected to at least one of the a cylinder chamber and/or an ~~the~~ annular chamber of the hydraulic cylinder, as well as with the valve further comprising at least one connection for an additional unit ~~such as~~ selected from the group consisting of a pressure limiting valve, a pressure sensor, and/or a pressure display, wherein ~~by~~ the valve housing can be fixed to the hydraulic cylinder, and ~~characterised in that~~ wherein the connections (26, 27, 28, 29, 30, 31, 32; 125, 126, 127, 128, 129) run axially parallel to the axis (216) of the hydraulic cylinder (3) in its position fixed to the hydraulic cylinder (2).

2. (Currently Amended) The Valve according to claim 1, ~~characterised in that~~ wherein the connections (26, 27, 28, 29, 30, 31, 32; 125, 126, 127, 128, 129) at the valve housing (21; 121) are arranged at the top at the valve housing (21; 121) in its position fixed at the hydraulic cylinder (3).

3. (Currently Amended) The Valve according to claim 1 ~~or 2~~, ~~characterised in that~~ wherein the inner side (180) of the valve housing (21; 121) facing the hydraulic plunger (3) in the mounted state of the valve (20; 120) is adapted to the outer contour of the hydraulic cylinder (3).

4. (Currently Amended) The Valve according to ~~one of~~ ~~claims 1 to 3~~, ~~characterised in that~~ wherein the valve housing (21; 121) is provided with a recess (38; 224) at its plunger-side inner side (180), which overlaps a mounting plate (175) arranged at the hydraulic cylinder (3) in the mounted state of the valve (20; 120).

5. (Currently Amended) The Valve according to claim 4, ~~characterised in that~~ wherein the mounting plate comprises a hydraulic inlet to the cylinder chamber of the hydraulic plunger.

6. (Currently Amended) The Vvalve according to ~~one of~~ claims 1 to 5, characterised in that wherein the valve housing (21; 121) is provided with at least one transverse bore (39; 139) for receiving a fastening screw which can be screwed through the transverse bore into an associated thread bore at the hydraulic cylinder (3) and/or into a thread bore at the fastening plate (175) flush therewith.

7. (Currently Amended) The Vvalve according to ~~one of~~ claims 1 to 6, characterised in that wherein the connections (25—32; 125—129) are arranged in at least two stages at the valve housing (21; 121), with a first, lower stage (25; 117) near the inner side (180) and a second, higher stage (24; 224) near the outer side (190) of the valve housing (21; 121).

8. (Currently Amended) The Vvalve according to claim 7, characterised in that wherein the connections (26, 27, 28; 125, 126, 127) for the high pressure lines (11, 12, 17; 111, 112) and/or for the pressure display (124) are arranged in the higher stage (24; 124).

9. (Currently Amended) The Vvalve according to claim 7 or 8, characterised in that wherein the connections (128, 129) for the pressure limiting valve (212) and/or the pressure sensor (213) are arranged in the lower stage (117).

Claims 10 and 11 (Canceled)

~~1012.~~ (Currently Amended) The Vvalve according to ~~one of~~ claims 1 to 11, characterised in that wherein the side of the valve housing (121) facing the connections (125, 126, 127, 128, 129) comprises a chamfer (130) and/or the bottom side of the valve housing (21) comprises a chamfer.

Claim 13 (Canceled)

~~1114.~~ (Currently Amended) The Vvalve, in particular check valve for hydraulic plungers of shield-type support frames according to ~~one of~~ claims 1 to 13, characterised by comprising at least one fastening means for an extension housing (40; 50; 80) which can be mounted in a releasable manner to one of the side walls (22A, 22B) of the valve housing (21) for additional hydraulic functions of the shield-type support frame.

~~1215.~~ (Currently Amended) The Vvalve according to claim ~~14~~11, wherein characterised in that the fastening means consist of thread bores (19) in one or

preferably in both side walls (~~22A; 22B~~) of the valve housing (21).

1316. (Currently Amended) The Vvalve according to claim ~~14 or 15~~12, characterised in that wherein the valve housing (21) comprises a hydraulic outlet (36) to the cylinder chamber of the hydraulic plunger (3) at the rear side or at the bottom side.

1417. (Currently Amended) The Vvalve according to ~~one of claims 14 to 16~~11, characterised in that wherein the extension housing (50) comprises a hose connection (~~54~~) and connection receptions (~~53~~) for function elements for actuating a corner cylinder (~~7~~) of the shield-type support frame (4).

1518. (Currently Amended) The Vvalve according to claim ~~17~~14, characterised in that wherein the extension housing (80) comprises a reception bore for a pressure control valve (~~75~~) as a function element for actuating the corner cylinder.

1619. (Currently Amended) The Vvalve according to ~~one of claims 11 to 18~~, characterised in that wherein the extension housing (80) is provided with connection receptions for function elements for controlling a movement of only one horizontal skid (~~2~~) of the shield-type support frame (4).

Claim 20 (canceled)

1721. (Currently Amended) The Vvalve according to ~~one of claims 11 to 20~~, characterised in that wherein one side wall (~~22B~~) of the valve housing (21) is provided with a shut-off connection bore (~~61~~) connected to the high pressure connection (26) for the cylinder chamber and/or with a shutable connection bore (~~63~~) connected to the high pressure connection (28) for the annular chamber and/or with a shutable connection bore (~~64~~) connected to the hydraulic outlet (36).

1822. (Currently Amended) The Vvalve according to ~~one of claims 17 to 21~~, characterised in that wherein the extension housing (~~50; 80~~) is provided with a connection channel (~~56; 83~~) arranged flush with the annular chamber connection bore (~~63~~) arranged at the housing wall (~~57; 87~~) facing the valve housing (21).

1923. (Currently Amended) The Vvalve according to ~~one of claims 17 to 22~~11, characterised in that wherein the housing wall (~~57; 87~~) of the extension housing (~~50; 80~~) additionally comprises a connection channel (~~82; 55~~) arranged flush with the cylinder

chamber connection bore (61) and/or the hydraulic outlet connection bore (54).

2024. (Currently Amended) The Vvalve according to ~~one of claims 14 to 23~~11, characterised in that wherein an extension housing (40) provided with a pressure intensifier (44) can be connected to a side wall (22A) of the valve housing (21), whereby the pressure intensifier (44) preferably comprises an oscillating amplifier piston.

2125. (Currently Amended) The Vvalve according to claim 2420, characterised in that wherein the extension housing (40) comprises connection receptions for a throttle (46) preceding the inlet of the pressure intensifier and/or for a pressure reduction valve (44) preceding the pressure intensifier.

2226. (Currently Amended) The Vvalve according to ~~one of claims 14 to 25~~20, characterised in that wherein the side wall (22A) of the valve housing (21) comprises a first shut-off connection bore (35) connected to the hydraulic outlet (36) and a second shut-off connection bore (61) connected to the high pressure line connection (26).

2723. (Currently Amended) The Vvalve according to ~~one of claims 14 to 26~~11, characterised in that wherein the hose connections (54) and connection receptions (53) are axially parallel to the hydraulic plunger (3).

2428. (Currently Amended) A Sshield-type support frame with horizontal skids (2), a canopy (4), telescopic hydraulic plungers (3) supporting the canopy with regard to the horizontal skids (2), and a check valve (20; ~~120~~) associated with each hydraulic plunger, characterised in that wherein the check valve (20; ~~120~~) is formed according to ~~one of claims 1 to 27~~.